

REMARKS

In light of the above amendatory matter and remarks to follow, reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully solicited.

Claims 8-13 are withdrawn from further consideration; and claims 1-7 are presented for consideration. Claim 1 is amended to make explicit that which was implicit. It is submitted that claim 1, as originally presented, is patentably distinct over the prior art cited by the Examiner, and that claims 1-7 were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 USC 112. Changes to these claims, as presented herein, are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 USC sections 101, 102, 103 or 112.

Claim 7 was objected to on the ground that this claim should depend from claim 6. The dependency of claim 7 is corrected.

Claims 1-3 and 6-7 were rejected as being obvious in view of U.S. Patent 7,025,274 (Solomon) in combination with U.S. Patent 7,050,190 (Yamazaki). The patent to Goldenberg (U.S. Patent 6,636,197) was added to this combination to reject claim 4; and Japanese published application 10-199124 (Yoshiyuki) was added to this combination to reject claim 5. As presented, claim 1 is patentably distinct over the combination of Solomon and Yamazaki, even if this combination is supplemented by Goldenberg and/or Yoshiyuki.

The present invention, as defined by claim 1, is directed to an editing apparatus having two or more slots, or insertion units, into which semiconductor memories, such as memory cards, having edit material information recorded thereon, can be inserted. The edit material information recorded on each memory card is read; and plural images derived from the read information are displayed concurrently on a display unit. For example, if two memory cards are inserted into the insertion units, two images, one from each memory card, are displayed

concurrently. The displayed images are edited, one at a time, by the edit processing unit to output resultant edited information. These features are specifically recited in claim 1:

a plurality of semiconductor memory insertion units into which a plurality of semiconductor memories, which have recorded therein the edit material information and/or the resultant edited information, are removably inserted respectively; interface units for reading said edit material information from the semiconductor

memories inserted into said semiconductor memory insertion units;

a display unit for concurrently displaying a plurality of images derived from said edit material information read from said inserted semiconductor memories;

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an edit processing unit that is controlled by the control unit to edit the displayed images, one at a time, and to output resultant edited information.

It is respectfully submitted neither Solomon nor Yamazaki, alone or combined, suggests the foregoing features recited by claim 1. Solomon is directed to a portable tablet computer which has the capabilities of receiving memory cards and of displaying images recorded on those memory cards. However, there is no suggestion in Solomon of displaying two images, derived from two memory cards, concurrently on display screen assembly 22. Moreover, although one might be able to program Solomon's computer to carry out an edit operation, there is no suggestion in this reference to do so. While the Examiner is correct that the function of editing pictures is well-known in the art, there is no suggestion that, even if this function is attempted to be applied to Solomon, the result would be "to edit the displayed images, one at a time, and to output resultant edited information" as recited by claim 1. It is noted, the Examiner contends that display screen assembly 22 of Solomon "is for concurrently displaying a plurality of images" (see the middle of page 4 of the Office Action under reply). However, this contention is not supported by Solomon; and he clearly does not describe concurrently displaying respective images derived from edit material read from respective memory cards.

Yamazaki describes an information processing apparatus having memory slots for receiving memory cards 70. Yamazaki refers to edit operations, and his CPU 22 is capable of editing pictures. Nevertheless, Yamazaki does not describe the concurrent display of two images, derived from two memory cards, on, for example, display unit 2. As was the case for Solomon, Yamazaki does not describe that his edit operations can "edit the displayed images, one at a time, and to output resultant edited information" as recited by claim 1.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that, to provide programming for Solomon and for Yamazaki to carry out the specific display and edit operations recited by Applicants' claim 1 is nothing more than speculation and a hindsight reconstruction of these references. It is axiomatic that one cannot use the disclosure of an application as a guide to reconstruct the prior art in an effort to reject the claims of that application, especially if, as here, such reconstruction is not suggested by anyone other than the applicant.

Accordingly, the withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1 and the allowance of this claim are respectfully solicited.

Claims 2-7 depend from claim 1 and further define and limit the invention defined by the independent claim. Since claims 2-7 include all the limitations recited by claim 1, it follows that these dependent claims are patentably distinct over the combination of Solomon and Yamazaki for those reasons discussed above. Even if the combination of Solomon and Yamazaki is supplemented by the Goldenberg patent or by the Yoshiyuki Japanese application, such supplementing still is not suggestive of the aforequoted features recited by claim 1 and incorporated into claims 2-7. Therefore, the allowance of claims 2-7 also is solicited.

Applicants' representative has made in earnest and diligent effort to respond to the Office Action of June 1, 2007 and to place this application in condition for allowance. Should the

Examiner believes a telephone interview would resolve any issues that may remain, he is respectfully invited to telephone the below-named representative at the indicated telephone number.


Statements appearing above in respect to the disclosures in the cited references represent the present opinions of the undersigned attorney and, in the event the Examiner disagrees with any of such opinions, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the references providing the basis for a contrary view.

Reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-7 are respectfully requested.

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,  
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